(b) whether Government are aware that a majority of commercial users such as halwais, etc., manipulate to get cylinders at prices fixed for domestic consumers after paying a little extra to the dealers or the delivery boys; and

(c) whether raids have been conducted by LPG Companies during the last 3 years to check this type of corruption due to which domestic consumers get late delivery of LPG refills; if so, the number of dealers found guilty and action taken or proposed to be taken against such dealers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir. The LPG meant for commercial use costs Rs. 38.37 per cylinder more than the one for domestic use at the ex-storage point on account of withdrawal of subsidy on LPG for commercial use effect from the 20th March, 1987;

(b) while no specific cases have been brought to the notice of the Ministry in this regard, the possibiliy of unauthorised diversion of LPG cylinders meant for domestic consumers to commercial consumers by unscrupulous elements cannot be ruled out;

(c) As stated at (a) above, this pricing policy was introduced only in March, 1987. The oil companies investigate complaints as and when received in this regard and take appropriate action.

Complaints against LPG dealers

214. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of complaints are being received by LPG companies against LPG dealers in the country direct or through the Ministry or through letters to Editors or grievances columns of various leading newspapers;

(b) whether he is aware that such complaints are not even acknowledged;

(c) what was the number of complaints received by the Chairman, Bharat Petroleum Corporation, New Delhi, during the period from 1st January, 1987 to 31st August, 1987 (alongwith the nature of the complaints and the name of the dealer involved in each case); and

(d) what were the number of complaints in respect of which ackhowledgements have not even been sent to the complainant till date and the company has just kept silent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b Yes, Sir. Complaints are received by the oil companies against LPG distributors from time to time directly and through the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. All these are investigated and appropriate action taken wherever necessary.

(c) and (d) The Bharat Petroleum Corporation does not maintain a separate record of complaints received by the Chairman. All complaints received are investigated by the Corporation's Divisional Office concerned and appropriate action is taken in accordance with the Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

Cooking Gas facility to cities and towns of Bihar

215. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a number of cities and towns in Bihar cooking gas facilities have not been provided so far by Government;

(b) if so, the names of cities and towns in Bihar which have been provided with LPG facilities till 31st July, 1987; and

(c) by when the remaining cities and towns of Bihar are likely to be provided with this facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The required information is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The Oil Industry is taking up in a phased manner in the country, marketing of LPG in locations having population of around 20,000 and above, and which offer potential for economically viable distributorships.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of location
1.	Patna (5 dealers)
2.	Ranchi (2 dealers)
3.	Barauni
4.	Darbhanga
5.	Gaya (2 dealers)
6.	Bhagalpur
7.	Jamshedpur (3 dealers)
8.	Muzaffarpur (2 dealers)
9.	Samastipur
10.	Bokaro (3 dealers)
11.	Dhanbad (3 dealers)
12.	Arrah
13.	Buxar
14.	Purnia
15.	Chapra (2 dealers)
16.	Monghyr/Jamalpur
17.	Dehri-on-Sone
18.	Kathihar
19.	Motihari
20.	Hazaribagh (2 dealers)
21.	Bihar Shariff
22.	Danapur (2 dealers)
23.	Giridih
24.	Dumka
25.	Sasaram
26.	Sindri
27.	Bettiah
28.	Gopalganj
29.	Siwan
30.	Madhubani
31.	Saharsa
32.	Sitamarahi
33.	Lakhisarai
34.	Chas
35.	Patratu
36.	Gomia
37.	Hazipur
38.	Deoghar
39.	Jhumritilaiya
40.	Jamui
41.	Fatwah
42.	Forbasganj
43.	Bagaha
44.	Jehanabad
45.	Madhupur
46.	Chakradharpur
47.	Shahibaganj
48.	Supaul
49.	Araria
50.	Khagaria
51.	Dumraon
52.	Ramgarh Cantt. (R)
53.	Barh
54.	Nawadah
55.	Daltonganj
56.	Kishanganj
57.	Chaibasa
58.	Aurangabad
50.	Kumardhubi